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*Chemicals*

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BY *Chairman* DATE *1-4-44*

PREPARED FOR CHEMICALS DIVISION REQUIREMENTS COMMITTEE

MEETING OF JANUARY 3, 1944



TRICHLORETHYLENE AND PERCHLOROETHYLENE

Tentative Supply Requirements Program for 1944

War Production Board  
Chemicals Division  
Requirements Committee

Document No. 68  
December 29, 1943

Copy No. 1

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NO. 31 RECORDED  
ISS. NO. 31

## TRICHLORETETRAE AND PERCHLOROETHYLENE

Refined tetrachloroethane, trichloroethylene, and perchloroethylene are colorless liquids produced from crude tetrachloroethane, which results from the chlorination of acetylene. They can be produced simultaneously and complete flexibility exists as to the relative amounts of each obtainable from a single plant.

Refined tetrachloroethane is manufactured solely on order of the Chemical Warfare Service for a secret and urgent use and none is released for any other purpose. Perchloroethylene is used in the manufacture of hexachloroethane, also for Chemical Warfare Service use, and both it and trichloroethylene are important as degreasing agents for metals. Pre-war use included substantial amounts for dry cleaning purposes and it is hoped that placing the materials under allocation will release some for this purpose under the small order exemption clause. Under the present priorities system, high priority orders have backlogged to a point where its control has obviously become necessary. It is accordingly proposed to place both tri and perchloroethylenes under allocation. The following summary of supply and requirements indicates the approximate distribution to be anticipated under the order.

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TRICHLOROETHYLENE AND PERCHLOROETHYLENE

Summary of Supply & Requirements  
Calendar year 1944  
(Unit: 1,000 pounds of designated chemical) lbs. BU.

TRICHLOROETHYLENE

TION	1 Q	2 Q	3 Q	4 Q	Total
	54,000	54,000	56,000	56,000	220,000
<b>EMENTS</b>					
Military					
2/	-	-	-	-	-
3/	-	-	-	-	-
raft 3/	1,190	1,190	970	970	4,320
5/	837	612	618	611	2,726
-Lease	837	612	618	611	2,726
5/	-	-	-	-	-
at 5/	-	-	-	-	-
et Military & Civilian	51,923	52,198	54,412	54,419	212,952
ls degreasing	49,598	49,873	52,087	52,094	203,652
extinguishers	675	675	675	675	2,700
sine extraction	150	150	150	150	600
llaneous	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	6,000
REQUIREMENTS	54,000	54,000	56,000	56,000	220,000
ted surplus, or deficit (-)	-	-	-	-	-

PERCHLOROETHYLENE 10/

TION	10,260	10,260	8,460	8,460	37,460
<b>EMENTS</b>					
Military					
2/	-	-	-	-	-
3/	19	19	19	20	77
raft 3/	-	-	-	-	-
5/	-	-	-	-	-
-Lease	-	-	-	-	-
da	-	-	-	-	-
et Military & Civilian	10,261	10,241	8,461	8,440	37,363
chloroethane	7,260	7,260	8,460	8,460	25,440
ls degreasing	2,981	2,981	2,981	2,980	11,923
llaneous	10,360	10,360	10,360	10,360	40,720
REQUIREMENTS	10,260	10,260	8,460	8,460	37,460
ted surplus, or deficit (-)	-	-	-	-	-

\*Notes see following page.

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## Trichlorethylene &amp; perchlorethylene footnotes

- 1/ Increased efficiency of operation anticipated during second half of 1944 resulting from installation of agitators in chlorination chambers of major producing plant.
- 2/ Small amounts only are required for direct purchase; these are included under categories "metals degreasing" and "miscellaneous". CNS perchlorethylene requirements for hexachlorethane are included under that category.
- 3/ 3,500 gallons a month for Army Air Force, 29,000 gallons per month in first half and 25,000 gallons per month in second half of 1944 for Bureau of Aeronautics; 12.2 pounds per gallon.
- 4/ Essential ingredient of carbon tetrachloride type of fire extinguisher (freezing point depressant).
- 5/ Requirements are relatively negligible in amount.
- 6/ Estimate of Drugs and Cosmetics Section, WPE, December 29, 1943.
- 7/ Miscellaneous solvent uses.
- 8/ Current rate of consumption for hexachlorethane in both private and government plants.
- 9/ Includes small but essential requirement for medicinals for sheep and other animals.
- 10/ Does not include perchlorethylene produced as part of hexachlorethane process.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that trichlorethylene and perchlorethylene be placed under allocation control.

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January 3, 1944

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B. V. Morgan, Chairman  
Chemicals Division Requirements Committee

NO.

cc:

Object: Trichlor and perchlor ethylene

This is to certify that a shortage in trichlor and perchlor ethylene was indicated at the Chemicals Division Requirements Committee meeting of January 3, 1944, and a control order is recommended.

(Signed)

Member, Chemicals Division Req. Com.  
representing

Claimant Agency

This is to certify that the undersigned claimant agency does not concur with the action of the Chemicals Division Requirements Committee at the meeting of January 3 recommending a control order for trichlor and perchlor ethylene.

(Signed)

Member, Chemicals Division Req. Com.  
representing

Claimant Agency

This is to certify that the undersigned claimant agency is not concerned with the requirements for trichlor and perchlor ethylene as indicated in Chemicals Requirements Committee Document No. 33 dated December 29, 1943, nor with the recommendation of the Committee at the January 3 meeting that it be placed under a control order.

(Signed)

Member, Chemicals Division Req. Com.  
representing

Claimant Agency

cc: This form, properly executed, should be given to the Secretary, E.K.Burper, at the close of the meeting, or sent to him, Room 1201 Tempo S. Failure to receive form at the expiration of five days will be taken as assent to the action of the Committee at the meeting.